Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraphs after numbered paragraph 0011, as shown below:

Figure 1a is an enlarged perspective view of a slider joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1b is another enlarged perspective view of a slider joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1c is an enlarged perspective view of a corner support joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1d is another enlarged perspective view of a corner support joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1e is an enlarged perspective view of a pair of three-way scissor joints of the collapsible frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1f is an enlarged perspective view of a scissor hinge joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1g is an enlarged perspective view of a lower canopy joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Figure 1h is an enlarged perspective view of an upper canopy joint of the collapsible gazebo frame of Figure 1;

Please amend numbered paragraph 0013, as shown below:

~~Figures 3A-C depict~~ Figure 3a depicts a gazebo frame fastener according to an embodiment of the invention taken along section line A-A in Figure 2;

Please insert the following paragraphs after numbered paragraph 0013, as shown below:

Figure 3b is an exploded view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 3a;

Figure 3c is a side elevation view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 3a;

Please amend numbered paragraph 0014, as shown below:

~~Figures 4A-C depict~~ Figure 4a depicts a gazebo frame fastener according to an embodiment of the invention taken along section line A-A in Figure 2;

Please insert the following paragraphs after numbered paragraph 0014, as shown below:

Figure 4b is an exploded view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 4a;

Figure 4c is a side elevation view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 4a;

Please amend numbered paragraph 0015, as shown below:

~~Figures 5A-B depict~~ Figure 5a depicts a gazebo frame fastener according to an embodiment of the invention taken along section line A-A in Figure 2;

Please insert the following paragraph after numbered paragraph 0015, as shown below:

Figure 5b is a side elevation view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 5a;

Please amend numbered paragraph 0016, as shown below:

~~Figures 6A-B depict~~ Figure 6a depicts a gazebo frame fastener according to an embodiment of the invention taken along section line A-A in Figure 2; [[and]]

Please insert the following paragraph after numbered paragraph 0016, as shown below:

Figure 6b is a side perspective view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 6a;

Please amend numbered paragraph 0017, as shown below:

~~Figures 7A-B depict~~ Figure 7a depicts a gazebo frame fastener according to an embodiment of the invention[[.]] taken along section line A-A in Figure 2;

Please insert the following paragraphs after numbered paragraph 0017, as shown below:

Figure 7b is an exploded view of the gazebo frame fastener of Figure 7a; and

Figure 8 is a perspective view showing the construction of a collapsible gazebo frame, according to another embodiment of the present invention.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0019, as shown below:

The corner support members 120 are configured to rest on a ground surface at a bottom end and to provide support for other gazebo frame components. The scissor assemblies 130 include a first pair of scissor members 145 extending along a perimeter of the collapsible gazebo frame. One of the first pair of scissor members 145 is pivotally connected to a corner support joint as illustrated in Figure 1c; and the other of the first pair of scissor members 145 is pivotally connected to a slider joint 133 as illustrated in Figure 1a. Additionally, the first pair of scissor members 145 are pivotally connected to each other at an intermediate position of the scissor members 145 by a scissor joint 142 as illustrated in Figure 1f.

Each scissor assembly 130 further includes a second pair of scissor members 145 extending along the perimeter of the collapsible gazebo frame 100 generally coplanar with the first pair of scissor members 145. Each of the second pair of scissor members 145 is pivotally connected to one of the first pair of scissor members 145 by a three way scissor joint 139 as illustrated in Figure 1e. The second pair of scissor members 145 are pivotally connected to each other by a scissor joint 142 as illustrated in Figure 1f. Additionally, one of the second pair of scissor members 145 is pivotally connected to a slider joint 133 (Fig. 1b) and the other is pivotally connected to a corner support joint 136 (Figure 1d). Each scissor member may be formed from a suitable material with a suitable shape, such as an extruded metal with a hollow rectangular profile. Thus, four scissor assemblies 130 are provided about the perimeter in cooperation with the four corner support members 120 of the illustrated embodiment.

The scissor members 145 are coupled to each other at the scissor joints (i.e., three-way scissor joints 139 and scissor hinge joints 142). Each two-way scissor hinge joint 142 is a pivotal connection between adjacent scissor members 145 as illustrated in Figures 1 and 1f. Each scissor assembly 130 is hingedly coupled to a different pair of corner support members 120 at the respective corner support joint 136. The scissor assemblies 130 are configured to extend and retract as illustrated by the arrows in Fig. 1, such that the corner support members 120 can be extended as illustrated in Figure 1 or retracted, wherein the corner support members 120 collectively converge with the scissor assemblies 130.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0020, as shown below:

Each slider joint 133 is hingedly coupled to a different one of the scissor assemblies 130 and is slidingly coupled to a different one of the corner support members 120. The slider joints 133 are configured to extend and retract the scissor assemblies 130 coupled to the respective corner support member 120 when slid along the corner support member 120. As illustrated in Figures 1, 1a and 1b, the corner support member is tubular, with a square profile of a suitable material such as metal or plastic, and the slider joint 133 is a sleeve configured to slide along the corner support member 120. Thus, the slider joint 133 is pivotally connected to two scissor members 145 and slides along the corner support member 120. In an alternate embodiment, rather than being one element, the slider joint is a separate element coupled to the scissor assembly slider.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0021, as shown below:

In one embodiment, a fastener is used in each gazebo frame joint ~~(joint)~~ to fix gazebo frame members in the respective gazebo frame joint. As illustrated in Figures 1, 1c and 1d, the corner support members 120 are tubular, and the corner support joints 136 are sleeves that are affixed upon the corner support members by an interference fit, mechanical or chemical fastener, or any suitable connection. In one embodiment, at least one of the gazebo frame joints uses a fastener that is not a lag bolt. A variety of fasteners that may be used in connection with the gazebo frame joints is discussed further below with reference to Figures 3-7.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0022, as shown below:

In another embodiment, the gazebo frame includes a canopy support frame 160 coupled to the scissor assemblies 130 and/or the corner support members 120, configured to support a canopy (tarp) on top of the gazebo frame. The canopy support frame 160 may include scissor members as canopy support members [[145]] 140 coupled to each other at scissor hinge joints 142 and coupled to the rest of the gazebo frame at the three-way scissor joints 139. The canopy support members 140 include four pairs extending outboard from a central region of the collapsible gazebo frame 100, as illustrated in Figure 1. The pairs of canopy support members 140 are oriented in an array, with each pair bisecting one of the scissor assemblies 130. Each of a pair of canopy support members 140 are pivotally interconnected at a scissor joint 142 (Fig. 1f) and are pivotally connected to one of a pair of three-way scissor joints 139 (Fig. 1e) of the associated scissor assembly 130. Thus each three-way scissor joint 139 is pivotally connected to a pair of perimeter scissor members 145 and one canopy support member 140.

The canopy support frame 160 may also include additional gazebo frame joints. These additional gazebo frame joints are a pair of canopy joints, an upper canopy joint 155 and a lower canopy joint 150. The canopy joints 155 and 150 join a plurality of the canopy support scissor members [[145]] 140 at the center of the gazebo frame. The canopy support frame 160 illustrated for the particular embodiment includes four pairs of central scissor members as canopy support members 140 extending centrally from the associated scissor assemblies. One of each pair of canopy support members 140 is pivotally connected to the lower canopy joint 150 (Fig. 1g); and the other of each pair of canopy support members 140 is pivotally connected to the upper canopy joint 155 (Fig. 1h).

In one embodiment, the canopy joints use fasteners that are not lag bolts to fix the scissor members in the canopy joints 155 and 150. In one aspect, the canopy support frame also includes a canopy peak extender 157 to elevate the peak of the canopy. The canopy frame extender 157 may be fixed to the lower canopy joint 150 (Fig. 1g) and may extend through the sleeve of the upper canopy joint 155 (Fig. 1h) to slide relative to the upper canopy joint 155 as the canopy frame extender 157 is translated.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0023, as shown below:

In one aspect, the corner support members 120 are extendable and retractable. In another aspect, the gazebo frame also includes feet 110 fixed to the bottom end of the corner support members 120 to anchor the corner support members 120 to the ground surface. The feet 110 are generally planar and are affixed to lower corner support members 105. The feet 110 may be formed integrally with the lower corner support members 105, or affixed to the lower corner support members by any suitable fastener, such as a weld. In yet another aspect, the corner support members 120 are configured to slant inward towards the center of the gazebo frame when the gazebo frame is deployed as illustrated in Figure 8.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0024, as shown below:

The canopy support frame 160 includes scissor members 145, canopy support members [[143]] 140, canopy frame joints [[148]] 150, 155, and the canopy ~~frame extenders 150~~ peak extender 157. The canopy support members include outer canopy support members provided by scissor members 145, and inner canopy support members 140, and a canopy peak ~~support member 160~~ extender 157. The corner support members 120 may include upper corner support members [[110]] 115 and lower corner support members 105 received within the upper corner support members 115 for extending and retracting the corner support members 120 lengthwise.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0026, as shown below:

Figure 2 is a detailed view showing a gazebo frame joint, according to one embodiment of the invention. The gazebo frame joint depicted in Figure 2 is the corner support joint 136. The corner support joint 136 is exemplary only and illustrates the pivotal connection of two scissor members 145 to a corner support member 120. The description with respect to Figures 2-7C may apply to any kind of gazebo frame joint, including but not limited to, the scissor joints (i.e., three-way scissor joints 139 and scissor hinge joints 142), the slider joint 133, and the canopy joints 150 and 155.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0028, as shown below:

Figures 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A and 7A are cross-sectional views of the corner support joint 136 taken about line [[8-8]] A-A in Figure 2, each figure showing a different gazebo fastener, according to one embodiment of the invention. Figures 3B, 3C, 4B, 4C, 5B, 6B and 7B are detailed views showing the different gazebo fasteners shown in Figures 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A and 7A respectively, according to one embodiment of the invention.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0029, as shown below:

Figures 3A-C show one embodiment of the invention in which the gazebo fastener is a bolt 310 with a sleeve 305. In the embodiment, the bolt 310 passes through the sleeve 305 to fix the scissor member 145 to the corner support joint 136. In the embodiment, the sleeve 305 has a conical opening to receive the bolt 310. In one embodiment, the 'cone' of the sleeve 305 sits flush with the outer side of the first flange 210 when the bolt is engaged with the corner support joint 136, as shown in Figure 3A. In an alternate embodiment, the sleeve passes through the first flange 210 and sits flush with the outer side of the first flange 210 when the bolt is engage with the corner support joint 136. The sleeve [[105]] 305 may have a rim on its edge to prevent the sleeve [[105]] 305 and the bolt 310 from slipping too far into the corner support joint 136. The bolt 310 may be smooth, partially threaded, or fully threaded.

Please amend numbered paragraph 0030, as shown below:

Figures 4A-C show another embodiment of the invention in which the gazebo fastener is the bolt [[310]] 410 with an alternate sleeve 405. The sleeve 405 is a hollow cylindrical tube with openings on each end so that the bolt [[310]] 410 can pass through. In the embodiment, the sleeve 405 rests between the first flange 210 and the second flange 215, as shown in Figure 4A. In one aspect, the sleeve 405 has a larger outer diameter, on the ends of the sleeve 405 or along its entire length, than the inner diameter of the fastener hole 205. The sleeve 305, described with reference to Figures 3A-C, and the sleeve 405, described with reference to Figures 4A-C, may prevent the scissor member 145 from being compressed inside the corner support joint 136 as well as reduce friction during deployment of the gazebo frame.